

REMARKS

This communication and amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed June 12, 2002, setting forth a Restriction Requirement in the above-identified application. In the Office Action, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

I. Claims 1-15, drawn to suspension of PBBMA and a process for its preparation;

II. Claims 16 and 17, drawn to a process for fire retardation of carpets or textile materials;

III. Claims 18, 20 and 21, drawn to a process for producing ultimate products by copolymerization; and

IV. Claim 19, drawn to a process for producing ultimate product by graft polymerization.

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transfer* In response, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I, corresponding to claims 1-15. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application corresponding to the non-elected claims of Groups II, III and IV, i.e., claims 16-21.

Applicant also presents herewith newly proposed claims independent claims 22 and 23, and dependent claims 24 and 25. Claims 22-25 are directed to a process for the preparation of PBBMA polymers and co-polymers, support for which is set forth in the original claims (e.g., claim 1) and the disclosure on pages 6-8.

An action on the merits is now respectfully awaited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: July 10, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

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